

Suffield Police Commission

Minutes of the Regular Meeting, June 18, 2008

The regular meeting of the Suffield Police Commission was held on Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at Suffield Police Headquarters, 911 Mountain Road, Suffield, Ct.

Present were: Chairman Don Miner, Commissioners Jack Quinn, Linda Stevenson, Matt Joyal, Peter Hill and John Zavisza. Also present were Chief Michael Manzi, Capt. David Bourque, and Recording Secretary Karen McKown. Officer Osowiecki was present for the K-9 discussion.

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Chairman Miner.

CORRESPONDENCE: Mr. Miner mentioned the follow correspondence:

- From the Police Commissioners Association of Connecticut to the Commission, an announcement of their monthly meeting
- From John F. Tinnirella, Senior V.P. & C.F.O., First Nat'l Bank of Suffield to Chief Manzi, thanking the Chief and Lt. Craig Huntley for providing a safety training seminar for bank employees.
- From Ms. Marie Dixon, 99 Hilltop Rd, Windsor, Ct. to Chief Manzi, commending Officer Ryan Burrell for his assistance with her disabled vehicle.
- From Attorney Edward McAnaney to Chief Manzi, commending Officer Thomas Kieselback for his assistance with his disabled vehicle.
- From Chief John Suchocki of Windsor Locks Police to Chief Manzi thanking him and the department for our support and assistance with a recent serious incident in their town.
- From Holly & Dwight Buckland, 761 North Stone St, complimenting Officer John Trovato for his assistance at a medical call on April 11.

PUBLIC INPUT:

None

MINUTES OF MAY, 2008 MEETING:

Mr. Quinn motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Ms. Stevenson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

BUDGET AND FINANCE – Capt Bourque stated that the commission packet finance report shows activity up till the end of May. The Capt said:

- The budget looks to be on track.
- Overtime is being closely watched.
- Line items that need review are gasoline and vehicle repair. The Capt. spoke about the school system's review of their gasoline usage.
- Diesel – still no reimbursement to the police line item from the school.

- Paying for training

DETECTIVE BUREAU – Detective Sargent spent 1 week at the municipal police academy assisting with firearms training. He also was off on vacation for a week. Additionally, Detective Sargent obtained and distributed new Stinger flashlight to police personnel (funded from donation from the Steven Bixler Memorial Fund).

K-9: Discussion was held regarding the K-9 team, an article in the Southwick Suffield News, and an up-date on “Zee” and her progress.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER – No discussion

EVALUATION – Several end-of-probation evaluations were distributed regarding Officer Thomas Kieselback. Officer Kieselback continued receiving outstanding evaluations. **Mr. Quinn motioned to** move Officer Kieselback from the position of probationary officer to full time regular officer, effective June 21, 2008. Mr. Hill recused himself from the voting process and left the room, due to his prior acquaintance with, and possible bias towards Ofc. Kieselback. Mr. Hill left the room for the vote. Mr. Joyal seconded Mr. Quinn’s motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

ACTIVITY REPORT – Mr. Miner requested a column in the activity report, showing the number of OSHA reportable incidents. After discussion, it was decided this would not be done. The Chief would continue to alert the Commissioners to personnel injury or work related illness. In the commission packet, the Chief included his general order regarding worker’s comp. first report-investigations.

The increase in number of assaults reported in the activity report, was noted. None of the assaults were serious. Capt. Bourque suggested adding domestic violence and juvenile issues to the activity report.

Mr. Quinn motioned to accept the department reports as presented, seconded by Mr. Hill. The motion passed by unanimous approval.

CHIEF’S REPORT –

New police recruits are through with one of three marking periods at the academy and they appear to be doing well. It will still be a long while before they are out on their own patrol.

The Chief spoke about

- The new state juvenile laws and their negative impact on smaller police departments, such as Suffield’s.
- A smash and grab break into a motor vehicle at Suffield Country Club where two women’s purses were stolen. There was no report of this incident at SPD headquarters, until one of the stolen credit cards was used in an attempt to buy vehicle parts from a dealer in Hartford. The perpetrators fled the business when the clerk asked for positive I.D. A similar type of incident occurred at another golf course, shortly before or after ours. The case is under investigation. The Chief would like to be able to add patrol hours to aid in the deterrence of crimes, such as the one mentioned above.

- Chief Manzi spoke about a couple in town who have developed quite a lengthy history of contacts with us and the animal control officer, and their borderline harassing attempts to gain possession of an Italian Greyhound owned by a neighbor. The case is long and ongoing.
- The Chief has been discussing regionalization of radio frequencies known as RAFS1 or RAFS2 which would be used during an emergency. Radios have been purchased for this through grant money.
- Also purchased through grant money are portable “speed humps” (not bumps). These items have a ten inch maximum rise in their middle. The speed humps are going to be tried experimentally on roads in town that have experienced speeding vehicle problems. Large traffic arteries such as Rt. 168, Rt. 75, Rt. 159, etc are not streets that these can be used on.
- Chief Manzi spoke briefly about a non-emergency interagency agreement between 9 towns (Suffield, Simsbury, Granby, Avon, Farmington, Windsor, Windsor Locks, Canton and Bloomfield) which would give police powers to all officers in all the respective towns, for minor offenses and traffic violations. The Chief said such interagency agreements are “the wave of the future”. It was determined that no vote from the commission was required at this time. The First Selectman has signed off on Suffield’s portion of the agreement

There was no executive session

CHAIRMAN COMMENT – None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

At 9.01 p.m., Mr. Quinn motioned to adjourn. Mr. Hill seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen McKown,

Donald Miner, Chairman

Recording Secretary